

Restriction

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-identified application and has divided the claims into two groups as described in the Office Action. Applicants have elected, with, Group I, for examination purposes only.

Applicants traverse the restriction between Group I and Group II on the grounds that no materially different product has been shown for which process can be practiced. Applicants respectfully request that Group II be rejoined once the subject matter of Group I has been determined to be allowable. Process claims of Group II include all of the limitations of product claims of Group I. Their rejoinder, therefore, will be proper under MPEP 821.04.

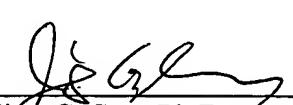
Species Election

Applicants have elected, with traverse, the species of Example 15, for examination purposes only. Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement for an Election of Species on the grounds that no reasons have been provided by the Examiner to show that there would be a serious burden placed on the Examiner if restriction were not required (MPEP 803). Applicants respectfully request that, should the Examiner find the elected species allowable, the search be extended, since Applicants are entitled to consideration of claims to a reasonable number of disclosed species in addition to the elected species as provided for under 37 CFR 1.146.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or believes further discussion will aid examination and advance prosecution of the application, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

Respectfully submitted,

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